

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): CASTRO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1775  
)  
Serial No.: 10/034,642 ) Examiner: G.A. Blackwell-Rudasil  
Confirmation No.: 9543 )  
)  
Filed: December 28, 2001 )  
)  
For: POLYCRYSTALLINE TRANSLUCENT ALUMINA-BASED CERAMIC MATERIAL,  
USES, AND METHODS

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a one-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed 6 October 2003, thereby extending the date on which the period of response is set to expire from 6 January 2004 to 6 February 2004.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 13-4895 in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the required extension fee. Please charge any additional fees or credit any over-payment to PTO Deposit Account No. 13-4895.

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature: *Rachel Gagliardi*  
Name: *Rachel Gagliardi*  
"Express Mail" mailing label number:  
EV 405 458 638 US  
Date of Deposit: February 5, 2004

*February 5, 2004*  
Date

LDA/rgg

Respectfully submitted for

CASTRO et al.

By  
Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.  
P.O. Box 581415  
Minneapolis, MN 55458-1415  
Phone: (612)305-1220  
Facsimile: (612)305-1228

By: *Loren D. Albin*  
Loren D. Albin  
Reg. No. 37,763  
Direct Dial (612)305-1225